

ARTICLES

OF

IMPEACHMENT

EXHIBITED BY THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AGAINST

GEORGE M. WICKLIFFE,

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

FEBRUARY, 1870.

NEW ORLEANS:

A. L. LEE, STATE PRINTER.

1870.

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ARTICLES

EXHIBITED BY THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA,

In the name of themselves, and of all the People of the State of Louisiana, against George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, in maintenance and support of their impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors in office.

ARTICLE I.

That the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the sixth day of October, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, having been summoned to appear at the Sixth District District Court in and for the parish of Orleans, to show cause why a writ of mandamus should not issue against him, the said George M. Wickliffe, in his capacity of Auditor of Public Accounts, to compel the issue of warrants upon the State Treasury in favor of John B. Howard, for the sum of eleven thousand and six dollars and seventy cents, as the assignee of one J. C. Kathman, of an appropriation made to said Kathman by the General Assembly of Louisiana, in act No. 213 of acts of 1868, did neglect to answer said summons of the Sixth District Court of the parish of Orleans, and allowed the cause to go by default, and the mandamus to be made peremptory, he the said George M. Wickliffe well knowing that the prayer of the petitioner was groundless, and not founded upon fact or law, all to the injury of the State in the sum of eleven thousand and six dollars and seventy cents; whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, did commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE II.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, on or about the eighth day of October, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, at New Orleans, Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and of the laws of the State, did, without any authority of law, and in violation thereof, issue to one J. B. Howard, negotiable warrants upon the State treasury, for the sum of eleven thousand and six dollars and seventy cents, purporting to be against an appropriation made by the General Assembly of the State in favor of J. C. Kathman, in act No. 284 of the acts of 1868, he, the said George M. Wickliffe, well knowing that the appropriation authorized by said act, No. 213, had already been exhausted by a prior issue of warrants to the said Kathman and his assigns, thereby issuing warrants twice, for and against the same appropriation, to the detriment of the State and injury of the State treasury, in the sum of eleven thousand and six dollars and seventy cents (\$11,006 70), whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE III.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, in the month of October, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, at New Orleans, Louisiana, unmindful of the duties of his office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did issue and deliver to one J. B. Howard, warrants upon the Treasury of the State for the sum of eleven thousand and six dollars and seventy cents, purporting to be under and by virtue of act No. 284 of the acts of the General Assembly of 1868, entitled an act for the relief of J. C. Kathman, late chief of Bureau of Immigration, although said Wickliffe had already issued warrants upon the treasury for the whole of the aforesaid appropriation of eleven thousand six dollars and seventy cents, upon the warrant to him made by Kathman, in whose favor the relief was granted by the statute aforesaid, whereby the said Wickliffe did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE IV.

That the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, did, on or about the thirtieth day of December, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, at New Orleans, Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, issue his official, negotiable warrant, numbered 7071, upon the State treasury, for the sum of one thousand nine hundred and eighty dollars, in the name of one J. B. Richardson, Jr., and did induce the said J. B. Richardson, Jr. to indorse and negotiate said warrant, No. 7071, for the use and benefit of him, the said George M. Wickliffe, the said warrant being drawn for thirty-three coupons, numbered one, and thirty-three coupons numbered two, detached from bonds issued by virtue of the provisions of act numbered 115, approved in March, 1867, he, the said George M. Wickliffe, well knowing that none of the bonds authorized by said act numbered 115, of 1867, were issued, until all coupons numbered one and two were past due, and not issuable; all this to the injury of the State, and violation of law, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, then and there did commit, and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE V.

That the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office and of his oath of office, and in violation of law, did, on or about the month of January or February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty nine, exact and take from one O. H. Hempstead, the sum of three hundred dollars in State warrants, in consideration of issuing warrants to the proprietors of the Assumption Advocate for public printing to the amount of about two thousand dollars, refusing to issue the same until the said O. H. Hempstead would agree to give him the aforesaid sum of three hundred dollars, and furthermore to keep the transaction a secret, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit, and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE VI.

That the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, at New Orleans, Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of law, did, in the month of January or February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to audit an account against the State for public printing in favor of the proprietors of the Attakapas Register, for about the sum of two thousand dollars, in the hands of one O. H. Hempstead, acting for and in behalf of the proprietors of said paper, known as the Attakapas Register, unless the said O. H. Hempstead would give him, the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, the sum of three hundred dollars in State warrants, and would agree to keep the transaction a secret, and the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there extort from the said O. H. Hempstead the aforesaid sum of three hundred dollars in State warrants before he would consent to issue said warrants, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE VII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, at New Orleans, Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, in the month of January or February A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to audit certain accounts against the State, for public printing and for other purposes, to the amount of about six thousand dollars, in the hands of one O. H. Hempstead, acting for and in behalf of the proprietors of the Terrebonne Patriot, a newspaper published in the parish of Terrebonne, and of the proprietors of the Republican Vindicator, a newspaper published in the parish of St. Tammany, unless, and until the said O. H. Hempstead would agree to give, and did give to him, the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, fifteen per centum of the whole of the aforesaid accounts of about six thousand dollars, and to keep the transaction a secret, and the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there exact from the said O. H. Hempstead the full amount of

fifteen per centum upon all of the aforesaid accounts, amounting in the whole to about six thousand dollars, before the said Auditor would consent to issue, or did issue, warrants for the same, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE VIII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, at New Orleans, Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the fifteenth day of February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to audit an account against the State, in favor of one Patrice Leonard, editor of the Empire Parish, a newspaper published in the parish of Plaquemines, for public printing by him, the said Patrice Leonard, done for the sum of two thousand and thirty-one dollars, without the said Patrice Leonard would pay him, the said Auditor, therefor; and the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, did then and there exact, extort and take from the said Patrice Leonard five hundred and thirty-one dollars from and out of said account of two thousand and thirty-one dollars to the use and benefit of him, the said George M. Wickliffe, and gave a certificate of indebtedness to the said Patrice Leonard for the sum of one thousand and five hundred dollars in full discharge for the aforesaid account of two thousand and thirty-one dollars, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE IX.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, at New Orleans, Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, on or about the nineteenth day of March, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to audit an account against the State in favor of one Patrice Leonard, editor of the Empire Parish, a newspaper published in the parish of Plaquemines, for public printing by him, the said Patrice

Leonard, done for the sum of fifteen hundred and sixty-five dollars, without the said Patrice Leonard would pay him, the said Auditor, therefor; and the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, did then and there exact, extort and take from the said Patrice Leonard seven hundred and eighty-two dollars and fifty cents from and out of said account of fifteen hundred and sixty-five dollars, to the use and benefit of him, the said Wickliffe, and gave a certificate of indebtedness to the said Patrice Leonard for the sum of seven hundred and eighty-two dollars and fifty cents in full discharge for the aforesaid account of fifteen hundred and sixty-five dollars, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE X.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, at New Orleans, Louisiana, unmndful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to audit an account against the State in favor of one R. W. Francis, editor of the Terrebonne Patriot, a newspaper published in the parish of Terrebonne, for public printing, by him, the said R. W. Francis done, for the sum of seven hundred dollars, without the said R. W. Francis would pay him, the said Auditor, therefor; and the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, did then and there exact, extort and take from the said R. W. Francis one hundred dollars in current money, to the use and benefit of him, the said Wickliffe, and did then audit the said account of seven hundred dollars, and deliver warrants for the same to the said R. W. Francis, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE XI.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmndful of the high duties of his office and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the month of May,

A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to audit an account against the State in favor of one R. W. Francis, editor of the Terrebonne Patriot, a newspaper published in the parish of Terrebonne, for public printing by him (the said R. W. Francis) done, for the sum of three hundred and seventy-five dollars, without the said R. W. Francis would pay him (the said Auditor) therefor; and the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, did then and there exact, extort and take from the said R. W. Francis fifty dollars in current money, to the use and benefit of him (the said Wickliffe), and did then audit the said account and deliver warrants for the same to the said R. W. Francis, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office

ARTICLE XII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, on or about the month of March or April, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to audit an account against the State in favor of one J. W. Menard, editor of the Radical Standard, a newspaper published in the parish of Jefferson, for public printing by him, the said J. W. Menard done, without the said J. W. Menard would pay him, the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana; and the said Wickliffe did then and there exact, extort and take from the said J. W. Menard a five hundred dollar certificate of indebtedness, to the use and benefit of him, the said Wickliffe, and did then audit the said account, and deliver warrants and certificates for same to the said J. W. Menard, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE XIII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the month of March or April, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine,

Refuse to audit an account against the State in favor of one J. W. Menard, editor of the Radical Standard, a newspaper published in the parish of Jefferson, for public printing by him, the said J. W. Menard, done, without the said J. W. Menard would pay him, the said Geore M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, and the said Wickliffe did then and there exact, extort and take from the said J. W. Menard three hundred dollars in State warrants, to the use and benefit of him, the said Wickliffe, and did then audit the said accounts, and deliver warrants and certificates for same to the said J. W. Menard, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE XIV.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the fourteenth of February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to audit an account against the State in favor of one J. N. Osborn, editor of the Madison Mail, a newspaper published in the parish of Madison, for printing by him, the said J. N. Osborn done, for the sum of two thousand seven hundred and thirty-five dollars, without the said J. N. Osborn would pay to him, the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, and the said Wickliffe did then and there exact, extort and take from the said J. N. Osborn seven hundred and thirty-five dollars, in two certificates, one for five hundred dollars and the other for the sum of two hundred and thirty-five dollars, to the use and benefit of him, the said Wickliffe, and did then deliver to the said J. N. Osborn four certificates for five hundred dollars each, amounting to two thousand dollars, in full discharge of the aforesaid account of two thousand seven hundred and thirty-five dollars from the said J. N. Osborn; whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime in office.

ARTICLE XV.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the

State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the twentieth day of June, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, exact, extort and take from Dr. William H. Hire, Treasurer of the Charity Hospital, and acting in his capacity as Treasurer of the Charity Hospital, the sum of three hundred dollars, in current money, for cutting up a warrant for ten thousand dollars into smaller warrants, the said warrant being a part of an appropriation in favor of the Charity Hospital, one of the charitable institutions of the State, he, the said George M. Wickliffe, declining and refusing to issue said small warrants in lieu of the aforesaid large warrants unless the said Treasurer of the Charity Hospital would first give him, the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, the sum of three hundred dollars in current funds, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XVI.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to cut up and issue in smaller warrants upon the State Treasurer, in favor of the Board of Health of New Orleans, a warrant for twenty thousand dollars, or into warrants sufficiently small to make them easily negotiable in the market, unless the Board of Health would consent to give him, the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, five per centum, or thereabouts, upon the whole of the aforesaid amount of twenty thousand dollars for this official duty, thereby attempting to defraud the said Board of Health of about one thousand dollars, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XVII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the

State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the twenty-sixth day of July, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, exact, extort and take from one A. J. Bogel, Treasurer of the State Insane Asylum, at Jackson, Louisiana, acting in his capacity as such Treasurer two per centum of a warrant for the sum of seven thousand five hundred dollars, which the said A. J. Bogel, Treasurer as aforesaid, was compelled to give him, the said Auditor, before he could obtain said warrants in size sufficiently small to make them easily negotiable, a difference of about four per centum then existing in the market between large and small warrants, and the said George M. Wickliffe, did then and there receive the aforesaid sum from the said Treasurer for his aforesaid official duty, thereby defrauding and injuring the said Insane Asylum, one of the public institutions of the State, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XVIII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the fifteenth day of September, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, exact, extort, and take from one A. J. Bogel, Treasurer of the State Insane Asylum at Jackson, Louisiana, acting in his capacity as such treasurer, two per centum of a warrant for the sum of five thousand dollars, to-wit: One hundred dollars cash, which the said A. J. Bogel, treasurer, as aforesaid, was compelled to give him, the said Auditor, before he could obtain said warrants in size sufficiently small to make them easily negotiable, and the said George M. Wickliffe did then and there receive the aforesaid sum from the said treasurer, for his aforesaid official duty, thereby defrauding and injuring the said Insane Asylum, one of the public institutions of the State, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XIX.

That the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his

office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the month of August, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, refuse to issue, in small and easily negotiable warrants, the appropriation of 1869 for the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Baton Rouge unless the officers of said institution would submit to a reduction of about five per centum of the whole appropriation, which five per centum said George M. Wickliffe was to receive as an extra compensation for performing an official duty, thereby attempting to defraud and injure a public institution of the State, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XX.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, in the month of October, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, exact, extort and take from James O'Neil, State Tax Assessor of the First District of New Orleans, the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars in current money, to the use and benefit of him, the said George M. Wickliffe, for cutting up or issuing small and easily negotiable warrants to said James O'Neil, State Tax Assessor of the First District of New Orleans, in settlement of his accounts as such State Tax Assessor, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XXI.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, at New Orleans, Louisiana, in the month of October, A. D. one thousand-eight hundred and sixty-nine, exact, extort and take from John C. Grayer, State Tax Assessor of the Third District of New Orleans, the sum of one hundred and twenty-five dollars in current money, to the use and benefit of the said George M. Wickliffe, for cutting up or issuing small and easily ne-

gotiable warrants to said John C. Grayer, State Tax Assessor of the Third District of New Orleans, in settlement of his accounts as such State Tax Assessor, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XXII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, at New Orleans, Louisiana, on or about the twenty-third day of November, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, having received a communication from his Excellency, Henry C. Warmoth, Governor of the State of Louisiana, in words and figures following, to wit:

STATE OF LOUISIANA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
New Orleans, November 23, 1869.

HON. G. M. WICKLIFFE, Auditor of Public Accounts:

SIR—In pursuance of article sixty-two of the constitution, I have the honor to request of you a full report of the condition of your office, together with such recommendations as you may deem proper to lay before the Legislature.

I particularly desire information on the following points:

1. The amount of warrants drawn in pursuance of and against each appropriation of the last General Assembly.
2. The amount of warrants drawn against appropriations of former Legislatures since your last report.
3. A statement of the amount of warrants received in payment of the one per cent. tax, the general tax of one-quarter of one per cent., and the amount of money received for the other funds; also the amount received for back taxes.

I would thank you to furnish the above desired information by the fifteenth proximo.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
(Signed)

H. C. WARMOTH,
Governor of Louisiana.

Did neglect to comply with the request of his Excellency therein contained, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, violated the express provisions of the constitution, and then and there did commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XXIII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, in the year A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, at New Orleans, Louisiana, receive, cut up and reissue a warrant for one thousand dollars, dated and issued on or about the twenty-fifth day of February, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, well knowing that said warrant was issued when the State government was solely and under the control of the Confederate States, and by a government in rebellion against the United States, and was therefore null and void, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit, and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XXIV.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did in the year A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, take an unexpended balance of the appropriation made for the clerk hire in the office of the Auditor of Public Accounts, amounting to about thirteen hundred dollars, and issue warrants to several clerks in said Auditor's office; this from the aforesaid unexpended balance, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XXV.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, in the summer of the year A. D. one thousand eight

hundred and sixty-nine, without any justifiable reason, employ four clerks in addition to the number allowed by law, and did, without authority of law, issue certificates of indebtedness against the State for payment thereof, and did, furthermore, employ two of his clerks—Mr. James Mushaway and Mr. Madden—outside of his office, and in a pursuit entirely foreign to the duties of his office, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XXVI.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did, during the year A. D. one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, at New Orleans, Louisiana, issue warrants upon the State treasury, purporting to have been drawn in pursuance of the appropriations of act No. 152, acts of 1868, entitled “an act to provide pensions for the veterans of 1814–15,” amounting to two hundred and twenty-seven thousand six hundred and seventy dollars and eighty cents (\$227,670 80), well knowing that there was no specific appropriation as required by the constitution and laws of the State, against which such warrants could be drawn, and furthermore that warrants were by him issued to about three hundred persons claiming to be pensioners under said act, without requiring such persons to conform to the requirements of said act, No. 152, of acts of 1868, thereby defrauding the State of large sums of money, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit, and was guilty of a high crime and high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XXVII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office and of his oath of office, and in violation of the constitution and laws of the State, did issue warrants against an appropriation of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) as per act No. 139, acts of 1869, entitled an act making appropriations for the general expenses of the year ending the thirty-first day of December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, to the amount of four hun-

dred and twenty-nine thousand three hundred and sixty dollars and forty-eight cents, thereby exceeding the appropriation the amount of two hundred and seventy-nine thousand three hundred and sixty dollars and forty-eight cents; and furthermore, in auditing and settling the accounts of the various publishers for public printing by them done, did discriminate and make a difference in the amount he allowed publishers for doing the same public printing, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high crime and high misdemeanor in office.

ARTICLE XXVIII.

That said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts for the State of Louisiana, unmindful of the high duties of his office, and of the dignity thereof, has kept his office in such a state of confusion and disorder, and so entirely devoid of system, that it has been impossible for him, the said Auditor, to make report to the Governor, or the General Assembly of the State, of the condition of the finances of the State, as required by law, or for the committee of the General Assembly to ascertain the State's financial condition in any reasonable time, thereby proving himself to be incompetent to perform the duties and functions of his high office, whereby the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts, did then and there commit and was guilty of a high misdemeanor in office; and the House of Representatives, by protestation, saving to themselves the liberty of exhibiting, at any time hereafter, any further articles, or other accusation, or impeachment against the said George M. Wickliffe, Auditor of Public Accounts of the State of Louisiana, and also of replying to his answers, which he shall make unto the articles hereinbefore preferred against him, and of offering proof to the same and every part thereof, and to all and every other article, accusation, or impeachment which shall be exhibited by them, as the case shall require, do demand that the said George M. Wickliffe may be put to answer the high crimes and misdemeanors in office hereinbefore charged against him; and such proceedings, examinations, trials and judgments may be thereupon had and given as may be agreeable to law and justice.



